## ROTHWELL, FIGG, ERNST & MANBECK

Suite 800 1425 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005

Telephone: (202)783-8040 Telefax: (202)783-6031 CENT CONTER

JAN 1 8 2005

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

**DATE: January 18, 2005** 

01/18/2005 16:57 FAX 202 783 6031

TO: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

FAX: (703) 872-9306

Art Unit 2685 - Examiner Thuan T. Nguyen

FROM: Brian S. Rosenbloom

**OUR REF.:** 

U.S. Serial No. 09/688,282 Filed: October 13, 2000 Docket No. 0101-137

THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHICH IT IS ADDRESSED AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL AND EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICABLE LAW. IF THE READER OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT OR THE EMPLOYEE OR AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR DELIVERING THE MESSAGE TO THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION OR COPYING OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY BY TELEPHONE AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE TO US AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS VIA THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICES. THANK YOU.

Number of Pages Including This Transmittal Sheet: 15

If any problems in connection with this facsimile, please contact: Carole at 202-783-6040

MESSAGE, IF ANY:

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the Preliminary Amendment herewith is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office this fgu day of January 2005.

Carole J. Klavuhn

Appl. No. : 09/688,282

Applicant : Richard J. Helferich

Filed : October 13, 2000

TC/A.U. : 2685

Examiner : Nguyen, Thuan T

Docket : 0101-137 Cust. No. : 6449

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria VA 22313-1450

CENTUL DIX COUTER

Date: January 18, 2005

JAN 1 8 2005

## Preliminary Amendment

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination on the merits of the abovereferenced application, please amend the application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 14 of this paper.